

South Dakota HOGS AND PIGS

News Release

March 24, 2000

HOG NUMBERS DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, March 24, 2000 --The state's March 1 inventory of all hogs and pigs was 1.23 million head, down 7 percent from a year ago and 2 percent below last quarter, according to USDA's South Dakota Ag Statistics Service.

Breeding stock totaled 125,000 head, down 4 percent from 1999. This was the smallest March 1 breeding herd recorded since these estimates began in 1963. **Market hogs** totaled 1,105,000 head, down 7 percent from last year.

The December through February **pig crop** was 516,000 head, 16 percent above last year. During the quarter 58,000 sows farrowed, up 16 percent from 1999. Pigs per litter averaged 8.9, the same as the previous year. Producers intend to farrow 60,000 sows during March through May, the same as the actual farrowings a year ago. Intentions for June through August are 60,000 sows, 9 percent above the actual farrowings a year earlier.

*For more information contact
William Hamlin at
605-330-4235*